

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 44-47 are pending.

The examiner commented that the "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" section of the specification needed to be amended to identify whether the present application is a continuation, etc. of the various non-provisional U.S. patent applications identified. Paragraph 0001 of the specification has been amended to identify the present application as a CIP and to update the status of the various applications.

A petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim of priority is enclosed.

The examiner rejected Claim 11 under 35 USC 112 and suggested that the rejection could be overcome by changing the phrase "a group" to "the group." Such change to Claim 11 has been made to overcome the rejection.

The examiner rejected all claims as anticipated or obvious in view of Mercaldi (2003/0073308) or Sakuma (5,270,247). A detailed discussion of the cited art is not required, given the reason for the rejection. Applicants' claims specify that the substrate is heated to multiple temperatures during the deposition process. The intent was to claim that the adsorbing and reaction steps are performed at the different temperature. The examiner explained that he rejected the claims since the claims were broad enough to encompass ramping the substrate from ambient to a single steady state temperature for conducting the deposition, thus encompassing the prior art.

In response to the rejection, the independent Claims 1 and 44 have been amended to make clear which steps are carried out at what temperature, thus overcoming the rejection of all claims. It is noted that the cited art does not disclose or suggest Applicants' amended claims.

In view of the above arguments, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408) 382-0480 ext. 202.


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9/28/04
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,


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